



Western Library System Helping libraries serve our communities.

March/April 2019

WLS: Blasting Off Into New Territories

The Western Library System is blasting off into a new office space. We are moving into the Riverside Business Plaza on March 15, 2019!

Please note our new contact information:

Western Library System

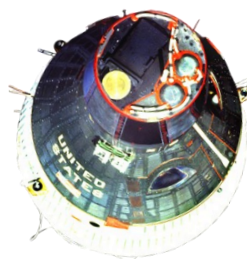
615 South Beltline Highway West

Scottsbluff, NE 69361

(308) 632-1350

(308) 632-3978 (Fax)

(888) 879-5303 (Toll-free)



"My two favorite things in life are libraries and bicycles. They both move people forward without wasting anything."

Peter Golkin

In This Issue:

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STEAM & Crafts Equipment Workshops on the Horizon

Have you ever wanted to dabble in makerspaces and add STEAM & Crafts to your library programs? Would your patrons like to code and discover how robots work? Want to make personalized book group t-shirts, or make creative buttons for the local sports team? What about learning to embroider your own logo on the library crew's shirts? **Do you like to try before you buy?**

Good News! The WLS office has recently purchased new equipment for our libraries to borrow for crafting events or temporary micro makerspaces. We currently have a computerized Brother SE625 2-in-1 sewing and 4" x 4" embroidery machine, an American Button Machine, and a Cricut Maker and EasyPress Heat Press...**and there's more to come!** Robots and coding equipment will be ordered soon.

Beginning in May, watch for our newest STEAM & Crafts Workshops which will be offered around the system, then get ready to borrow the equipment for your own STEAM & Crafts events for a month in your own libraries.

Jan J. Jolliffe

WLS Director

jan.jolliffe@nebraska.gov

Jeri Clapper

Administrative Assistant

wlsasst@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendar

NLA Advocacy Day—Lincoln
March 12, 2019

Nebraska Library Commission
Meeting—Lincoln
March 12, 2019

WLS Board Meeting
Railway Office Plaza, Conference
Room, 10:00 a.m.
March 12, 2019

SRP “A Universe of Stories”
workshops, March 8, Alliance:
[http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/
calendar/eventshow.asp?
ProgId=17949](http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventshow.asp?ProgId=17949)



Final Public Library Application to
host an Innovation Studio in your
library: March 29, 2019
[http://nlc.nebraska.gov/grants/
innovationstudios/](http://nlc.nebraska.gov/grants/innovationstudios/)

Communication Bootcamp with
Pat Wagner
May 7, Prairie Winds Community
Center, Bridgeport:
[http://libraries.ne.gov/
wls/2019/02/19/communication-
bootcamp/](http://libraries.ne.gov/wls/2019/02/19/communication-bootcamp/)



Upcoming *NCompass* Live

Upcoming NCompass Live events:

- March 6 - [Improving Internet Access In US Libraries: the 'Toward Gigabit Libraries' Project](#)
- March 13 - [Ethics Behind Emerging Technology](#)
- March 27 - [Reading Diversely](#)
- March 20 - [Health Education Resources with the National Network of Libraries of Medicine](#)
- April 10 - [What is OER? Outstanding, Extraordinary Raw materials?](#)
- April 24 - [Connect to Meetings, and more...Experts, Virtual Field Trips with Zoom](#)

***NCompass Live* is broadcast live, every Wednesday, from 9am - 10am Mountain Time.**

For more information, to register for NCompass Live, or to listen to recordings of past events, go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/>

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians 2019 Schedule

Class Dates	Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
3/18 - 3/29	Library Technology	Holly Woldt	2/18 - 3/1
4/1 - 4/30	Introduction to Cataloging*	Holli Duggan	3/4 - 3/22
4/22 - 5/3	Readers Advisory	Sharon Osenga	3/25 - 4/12
5/13 - 5/24	Intellectual Freedom / Core Values*	Sally Snyder	4/15 - 5/3
6/10 - 6/21	Library Finance	Scott Childers	5/13 - 5/31
7/8 - 7/19	Reference	Christa Porter	6/10 - 6/28
7/29 - 8/9	Library Policy	Sharon Osenga	7/1 - 7/19

(* Requisite class)

Register on the Nebraska Library Commission [Training and Events Calendar](#).
[Description of Basic Skills courses](#)

[Basic Skills Planner](#)--for program participants to keep track of their progress

Visit the Nebraska Library Commission Website for News and Announcements.



Celebrating John Hudson, Jr. Twenty years at the Morrill Public Library!



Surprise! Pete Cawiezel, Board President, along with Sarah Alfred, Director, present plaques to John Hudson, Jr., with his great grandson, Jace.



Board members, left to right, Sandra Lutz, Pete Cawiezel, Cindy Larson, Suzanne Vanderklish and Carol Wells with

The guest of honor, John is known as Mr. Fix-It, Mr. Book Repairer, and according to Sarah Alfred: "He truly is the heart of the library, and we couldn't work without our heart."



Sarah Alfred, Director, along with Cindy Larson, designed John's plaque on the laser cutter at the Sidney Public Library.



Granddaughter Shayna Hudson, and great grandson Jace, attended the surprise party/ twenty year celebration for John.



Lifelong friends Teri Bowen Wigert, Cindy Steiner Larson, and Pat Deines Gross gather to celebrate with John.

Happenings Around the System

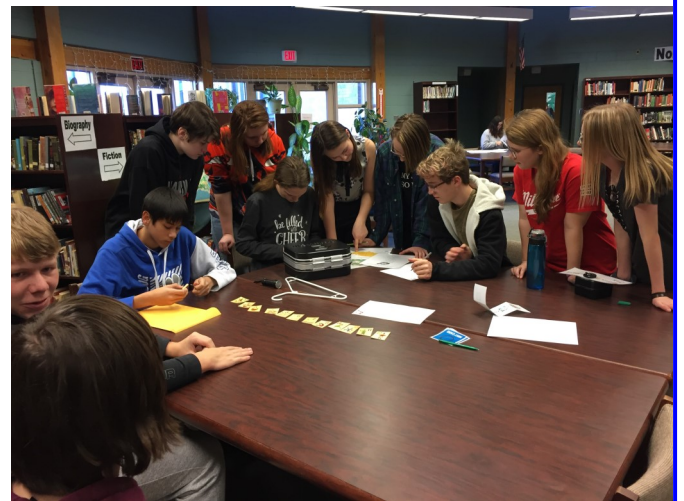
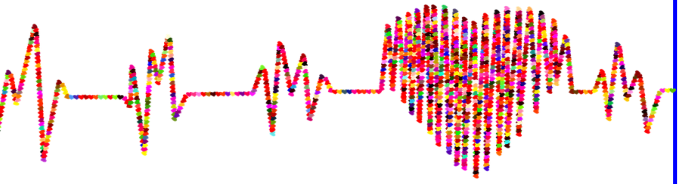
The Alliance High School Library Students Are Boldly Going Into the Unknown: Blind Book Dates and Breakout Games!



Blind Date With A Book is one of the most popular events at Alliance High School Library. You can't judge a book by its cover during this event, just by a short synopsis!



Alliance High School students enjoyed playing Christmas themed BreakoutEDU games during the month of December.



Photos and information provided by Allison Roberts, Alliance High School Library

Happenings Around The System

Makey Makey, Play-Doh, Pete the Cat and Dancing

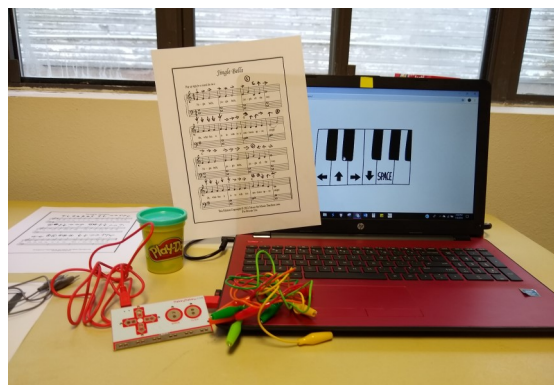
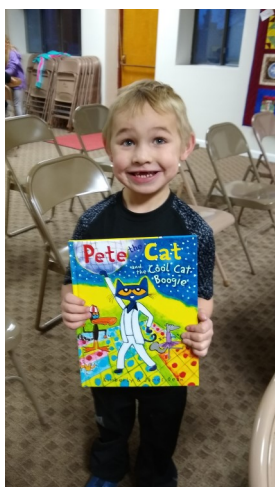
The Broadwater Public Library recently partnered with Morrill County Extension Office to bring a beginning programming class to the After-School Club program. We began by reading the Pete the Cat book *Cool Cat Boogie*. This was one of the recommended books from last years summer reading program. The book's message is to not give up even when things don't seem to be going your way. There is also a dance in the back. Participating in the dance helps the students prepare to follow the instructions while they program the Makey Makey keyboard. We then had the students assist in hooking up the Makey Makey and interacting with two websites developed for the device:

<https://apps.makeymakey.com/bongos/> and <https://apps.makeymakey.com/piano/>. We used Play Dough to act as our keyboard when interacting with the device. You can also use fruit of any kind.

One of the websites allows the students to create a keyboard that can play five keys above Middle C on a piano. To make the project more enjoyable, I found simple sheet music for the key of Middle C for the right hand. I added the symbols from the Makey Makey that corresponded to the correct note on the piano to aid the students in playing the music.

We had five students ranging from kindergarten to sixth grade. The project is best for a small group of this size. If you have more students you may want to use the Makey-Makey as a station in group of programming exercises.

A Makey Makey device is available for check out at the Western Library System. You can find out more information about the device at: <https://makeymakey.com/>. I am also willing to answer questions about how we have used the Makey MaKey at Bridgeport and Broadwater during our after-school programs. Feel free to contact me at broadwaterpl@gmail.com.



Cheryl Hamilton, Librarian, Broadwater Public Library and Library Assistant, Bridgeport Public Library.

Attention: The Kiddos are Breakin' Out... of the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library



Collaboration



Critical Thinking Skills



Team Building



Pictures by Mackenzie Watson, Teen Librarian/ Children's Assistant Librarian, Lied Scottsbluff Public Library

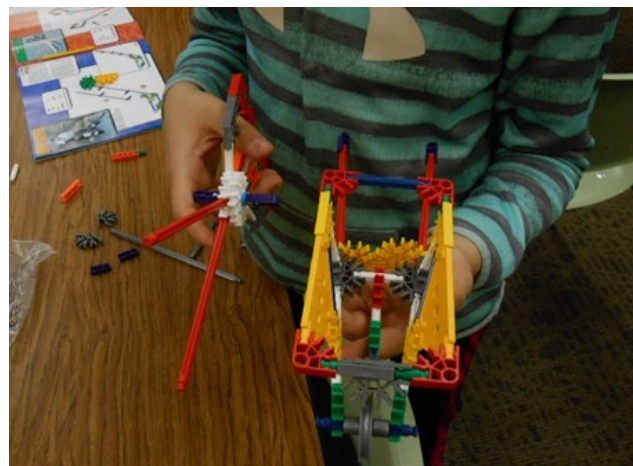
Kimball PL Receives Youth Grant For Excellence



In November 2018, Kimball Public Library received the Youth Grant for Excellence. With this grant we have been able to purchase many different educational games and activity packs that have already begun to improve our afterschool program. We purchased 5 K'Nex kits, 2 Physics workshops, 2 Genetics and DNA kits, 4 straw builders, 3-D pens, robot kits, and 2 Breakout Kits for our afterschool program. For the teens in our area we are creating makerspace kits to create Duct Tape crafts, black out poetry, and macramé projects.

So far we have been able to use the Breakout Kits with our Club Next kids. The kids raced around the room working hard to figure out a simple Red Riding Hood puzzle. This was so successful because it provided a fun and well-rounded activity for the kids. First, we read the story to them in order to refresh their memory. Next, they had four stations that they had to go to with different puzzles to solve. Two were math related, one was story comprehension, and the last was story flow. In the end everyone completed the task, saved grandma, and all got a cookie.

The kids have had a wonderful time during Creative Hour building and creating with the K'Nex and Straw builders. These youths are learning the importance of following the directions given in order to create the projects in the kits. They are also using their amazing imaginations to create all new things. We look forward to watching these young ones continue to grow and learn, thanks to the Youth Grant for Excellence.



Article and pictures submitted by Amber Sweetland, Asst. Director/Children's Librarian, Kimball PL

Happenings Around the System

Lied Scotsbluff Innovation Studio Open House



Young entrepreneurs showing off their crafts made on the various Innovation Studio machines: t-shirts, wooden signage, wooden puzzles and boxes, Fortnite buttons, wooden earrings, and lasered and vinyl logo's on several items.



Sample of items made using the laser cutter, the router, and the laminator.



Game of Thrones chess set made by Peggie Michael, Library Assistant, on the [Makerbot Replicator+ 3D Printer](#)



Pat Gross shows off her lasered wine mug, grandkids t-shirt, and the many other creations made at the Innovation Studio.

Thanks For the Scholarship, WLS!

RI began pursuing a Master of Library Science degree from Rutgers University online in the Spring of 2017. The degree is required for the position of library director and the education is essential for my progress and success in this field. Rutgers offers a rigorous program with quality professors and is 100% online, which has been great for juggling my time at work and my time with my family. Tuition and fees, however, add up quickly, and the pursuit of the MLS degree would not be possible without assistance like the WLS Scholarship.

This semester I am enrolled in Collection Development & Management, Reference Sources & Services, and a Portfolio Capstone course, and because of the WLS scholarship, I will earn my degree this May. The courses I'm taking, the connections I'm making, and the skills I'm developing through the Rutgers Library and Information Science program allow me to serve the Scottsbluff community and lead the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library better.

--Noelle Thompson, Director of Lied Scottsbluff Public Library

Western Library System Has Scholarship's Available

Click here for Scholarship Form:

<http://libraries.ne.gov/wls/wls-scholarship-application/>

The Western Library System established a scholarship fund to facilitate the professional development of librarians within the system. Librarians, Media Specialists, and those connected with member agencies within the System may use these monies for attendance at professional meetings, classes, workshops, or other beneficial academic activities. Upon approval, funds will be dispersed after the Western Library System Board's next bi-monthly meeting.

Provisions of the Scholarship include:

1. Each applicant must submit an application letter and form any time prior to or two weeks after the event for which the scholarship is intended.
 2. The Scholarship Committee will review each application received.
 3. The Scholarship Committee has the right to adjust the amount requested depending on the budget and the number of applications received during the fiscal year, with a maximum request of \$200.00.
 4. Scholarships evaluated on a first-come, first-serve basis.
 5. Priority given to events within the state.
 6. Individual applicants are limited to requesting scholarships once in a two-year period.
 7. Scholarship recipients will provide a brief article in the System Newsletter as a form of resource sharing within one month of completion of the activity.
2. Submit articles to the WLS office.

Scholarship Committee Western Library System 615 South Beltline Highway West, Scottsbluff, NE



Junior Ranger Night Explorers

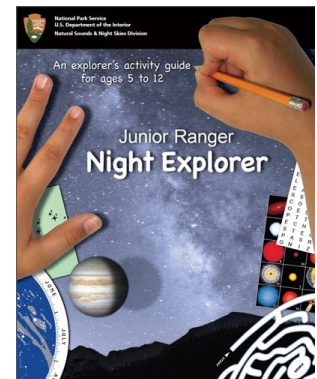
The National Park Service has developed a Junior Ranger Night Explorer program, encouraging young park visitors to explore the dark side of their national parks.

Children can learn how to find the North Star, write their own creative mythology about the constellations, track the phases of the moon, learn about stars and galaxies, and use all their senses to explore the night environment at a national park.

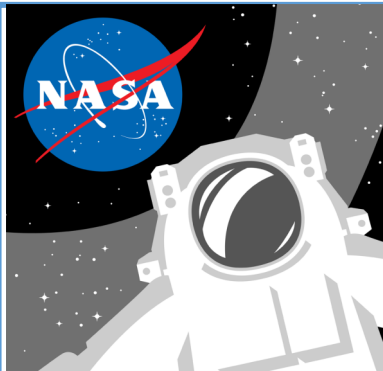
[Junior Ranger Night Explorer Book](#) [22,848 MB PDF]

This book is free and available in a number of national parks, or you can download and print your own copy. After completing the activities, there are two ways to receive your Junior Ranger Night Explorer patch:

- Return completed booklets to a ranger at a participating park.
- Send completed booklets to:
National Park Service
National Junior Ranger Program Manager
1849 C Street NW RM 1448
Washington, D.C. 20240



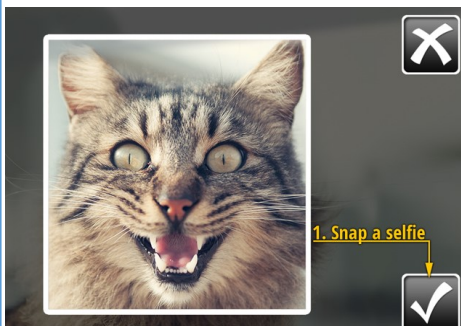
This program could be used in conjunction with the summer reading program “A Universe of Stories.” This would be a great way for kids to do something outside of the library and bring back their completed book by the end of summer for a prize



NASA Selfies

Create your own selfies from outer space! NASA Selfies lets you put your photo in a virtual spacesuit in front of some of NASA's most captivating space images. Share these space selfies on social media, and learn about the science behind the pictures.

This app was developed by the IPAC Communications & Education group and has been released in conjunction with the 15th anniversary of NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope mission and features a collection of images that showcase its infrared data. In the future, images from more missions will be added.



[NASA Selfies Privacy Policy](#)



Would your library like to host a makerspace for twenty weeks in 2020???

Application Deadline: March 29, 2019



The Nebraska Library Commission's Library Innovation Studios Transforming Rural Communities project features a dynamic rotating makerspace that can be scheduled to visit accredited public libraries in Nebraska for up to twenty weeks.

There's still room to select another five accredited public libraries - four to host full studios between March and August 2020, and one to host as a mini studio between November 2019 to March, 2020.

Everything you need to know to apply is located on the Library Innovation Studios Website at: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/grants/InnovationStudios>, including:

- Information about the equipment available in the four identical Library Innovation Studios that are rotating around the state – click on Equipment/Components.
- The “Application of Interest & Commitment” due March 29, 2019. This document also lists the time periods available for the final five libraries to host the Makerspaces.
- The “Library Participation Benefits and Expectations, with Answers to Questions” link is likely to answer questions you may have about what is all involved in hosting a Library Innovation Studio.

All other links and sections offer information about the project that will help you visualize the project, as well as provide a glimpse of the local commitment, benefits, and expectations.

The Nebraska Library Commission will consider any rural or small accredited public library to host the Library Innovation Studios. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) considers libraries with a legal service area of less than 25,000 as a small library.

The Nebraska Library Innovation Studios Transforming Rural Communities project is supported in part by the Nebraska Library Commission, partnering with the University of Nebraska Lincoln Nebraska Innovation Studio, Nebraska Extension, and Regional Library Systems. The project is funded through a National Leadership Grant awarded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Libraries can learn more about the project and the application/selection process by watching the following recorded May 30, 2018 webinar:

***NCompass Live, Library Innovation Studios: A Makerspace Project Update
and Review of the Final Application Process***

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventshow.asp?ProgID=17367>

Current and Upcoming Innovation Studios within the Western Library System:

- Kimball Public Library, Kimball, NE 2/18/19 7/8/19
- Chadron Public Library, Chadron, NE 7/8/19 11/18/19
- Hastings Memorial Library, Grant, NE 11/18/19 3/30/20



**Nebraska
Library
Commission**

Information provided by JoAnn McManus, NLC

The Story of Keilah, set in the Great Plains, is written by a former Nebraskan

The Story of Keilah is a fictional coming-of-age story about a young woman who has to leave her home and find her way in the world.

Keilah hasn't gotten over the death of her best friend, and now her father has died too. She learns she must leave the family farm for five years in order to collect her share of the inheritance. "Use the time to journal about your life and figure out how you got here," her therapist says. She finds herself in Sandy Salts, Iowa, where her strange landlord, Dee has secrets she'll "tell her later," and her boss' daughter, Nova, is set on Keilah's destruction. When Keilah decides to solve Dee's mystery, she uncovers disturbing secrets about her own past. What she discovers will change the town of Sandy Salts and Keilah Brownwell forever.

Joann Keder grew up in Alliance and raised her children in Scottsbluff. She now lives in the Pacific Northwest, where stories of life on the Great Plains still ruminate in her mind.

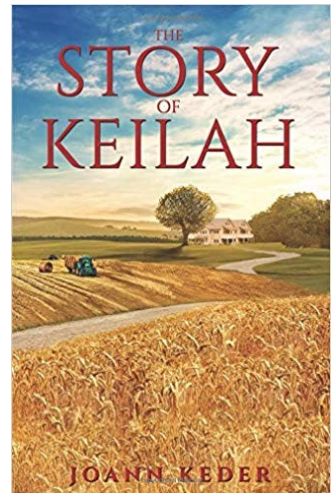


Image taken from Amazon.com

Information provided by Joann Keder, author

Matt Mason: Nebraska State Poet

Governor Pete Ricketts announced that Matt Mason of Omaha has been designated as Nebraska's next State Poet. The Nebraska State Poet is selected based on artistic excellence and exemplary professionalism demonstrated by significant publications and special honors, an established history of community service in the advancement of poetry in Nebraska, and the ability to present poetry and interact effectively with a public audience. Mason is executive director of the Nebraska Writers Collective, through which he has run the Louder Than a Bomb: Great Plains youth poetry festival each year since 2011. He is a former board president of the Nebraska Center for the Book and has served as the Nebraska State Coordinator for Poetry Out Loud, a Poetry Foundation/National Education Association program. He also edits PoetryMenu.com, a listing of every poetry event in the state of Nebraska.


"Poetry and poetry advocacy have been my life's real project, so being honored like this is amazing and humbling," Mason said. "I hope to get into communities around the state to do readings with authors there. I want to get to the different counties, to the Air Force Base, to different crowds and bring entertaining poetry as well as remind everyone of the poets already there in their communities."

As Nebraska State Poet, Mason will serve a five-year renewable term as an advocate for poetry, literacy, and literature in Nebraska. His duties will include giving public presentations and readings, leading workshops and discussions, and providing other outreach in schools, libraries, literary festivals, and various venues in rural and urban communities throughout the state.

To learn more about Matt Mason, visit his website at matt.midverse.com or his official page at the Humanities Nebraska website by [clicking here](#). For information about hosting the state poet with the Nebraska Arts Council's "Presenting the State Poet" grants, visit artscouncil.nebraska.gov or contact the office at (402) 595-2122.




Information provided by the Nebraska Library Commission



An Invitation to Enter...

The 2019 Book Awards Competition

Deadline: June 30th, 2019



Sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book

The entry fee is \$40 per book and per category entered.

Enter in one of two ways:

Complete the [Online Entry Form](#) and submit payment through PayPal. Mail three copies of the book to the below address.

Mail the Entry Form, three copies of the book, and the entry fee to:

NCB Book Awards Competition/o Nebraska Library Commission
The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023

Find out more & enter the Competition at:

Centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/nominationforms.html

Information provided by NLC



University of Missouri-Columbia

School of Information Science and Learning Technologies (SISLT) Virtual Open House

Saturday March 16, 2019 2-3:30pm

Zoom (<https://mizzou.zoom.us/j/746267972>)

Join us for an open house and learn about the opportunity to earn your MLS from Missouri!

- In-state tuition
- Rolling admissions
- Most classes online, fits your schedule
- Graduate assistantships, fellowships and awards

Laura England-Biggs

Program Liaison, SISLT

Phone: 402-290-3969

E-mail: engandle@missouri.edu

Makey Makey



[Makey Makey](#) The Western Library System has an Invention Kit for beginners and experts for art, engineering, and many other projects for budding innovators. Check this out for your library today! If you have any questions, please contact the WLS office.



Contact the WLS office:

wlsasst@gmail.com

Cover One Book Repair



The Western Library System has a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. Take advantage of this useful service to save your valuable books and avoid the cost of replacements. Go to <http://www.coverone.net/>

Bring your books into the WLS office to make your own repairs! Call the WLS office for an appointment: 308-632-1350, Toll-Free 888-879-5303.

Disc Cleaning and Repair!



The Western Library System has a new ECO AUTOSMART Disc Repair System. It is not just a buffer, but a full-service machine, to both clean and repair your valuable discs. Save those discs that won't play! As long as they are not cracked, we can fix them.

From July 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2019, each WLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings. If you have any questions, please call the WLS office.

WLS Board of Directors:

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Don't forget our move:



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Scottsbluff, NE 69361

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888-879-5303
Fax: 308-632-3978

Webpage:
<http://libraries.ne.gov/wls/>